



**EDUCATE. ADVOCATE.
SUPPORT. COMMUNITY.**

Volume 3, Issue 6

March 2009

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Church Updates Inclusion Statement for Transgender People

The congregation of North Congregational United Church of Christ voted on Sunday, February 8, 2009 to modify its declaration of inclusiveness to refer specifically to transgender individuals.

North Congregational Church, an "open and affirming" congregation within the United Church of Christ, adopted its original statement of inclusiveness in 1996.

The Church's declaration of inclusiveness now reads:

"North Congregational United Church of Christ is committed in word and deed to the equality of all God's people. We welcome and affirm persons of every race, gender, gender identity and/or expression, age, sexual orientation, nationality, ethnicity, family status, economic status, and physical, mental and emotional ability into full participation, membership, and leadership in our faith community."

"We are thrilled to expand our intentional welcome to include members of the transgender community," said the Rev. Eric Williams, senior pastor of North Church. "While the intent of our welcome has always been to include everyone, this is a very significant action and one that holds great meaning for a specific group of people who have been marginalized by much of society, including the church.

"Our North Church family has been enriched by the presence, involvement and leadership of transgender individuals and other members of the GLBT community," Williams said.

More than 200 people participated in a weekend event hosted by North Church last November titled "Called to Be: An Affirming Dialogue with the Transgender Community." The church partnered with a variety of GLBT-focused organizations and other faith communities to plan the event. That process led to the decision by North Church leadership to pursue a change in the church's declaration of inclusiveness.

The congregational vote followed a series of educational sessions featuring transgender individuals and family members, as well as showing of the critically acclaimed documentary film "Call Me Malcolm."

"Call Me Malcolm" is the story of the Rev. Malcolm Himschoot, one of the few openly transgender clergy members in the nation. Rev. Himschoot, of Colorado, was keynote speaker at the November 2008 event.

North Congregational United Church of Christ is located at 2040 W. Henderson Rd in Columbus, 43220. Sunday worship services are at 8:15 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. with childcare provided.

— David Hagelin

For more information about Ohio "open and affirming" faith and religious organizations, visit the Stonewall Columbus Lavender Listings at:
<http://www.lavenderlistings.com/category/religious-organizations>
 —or—
 Equality Ohio's Faith + Religion resource:
<http://equalityohio.org/08site/FaithandReligion.htm>



**Don't forget to SPRING FORWARD on Sunday, March 8, 2009.
Set your clocks 1 hour ahead!**

Local & National Calendar of Events

March 2009

- Tuesday, March 3, 2009. Gender Dysphoria Program of Central Ohio Support Group. crane@genderprogram.com for details.
- Tuesday, March 3, 2009. Kaleidoscope Youth Center, Gender Discussion Group, 7pm. Columbus.
- Wednesday, March 4, 2009. TransOhio TG Support Group, 7pm. The Center on High. Columbus.
- Thursday, March 5, 2009. TransFormers (Youth). 6:30pm. LGBT Center of Cleveland.
- Thursday, March 5, 2009. OSU GradQueers presents Athens Boys Choir. OSU Hillel.
- Saturday, March 7, 2009. New YOGA class begins at The Center on High. 11am-12pm. Open to All. See pg 7 for info.
- Tuesday, March 10, 2009. Kaleidoscope Youth Center, Gender Discussion Group, 7pm. Columbus.
- Thursday, March 12– Saturday, March 14, 2009. Keystone Conference, Harrisburg, PA.
- Friday, March 14, 2009. The Black Mondays perform in Covington, KY.. See pg 11 for more info.
- Sunday, March 15, 2009. 3pm, TransOhio monthly meeting at the Center on High, Columbus.
- Monday, March 16, 2009. New Creative Writing Workshop. The Center on High. 6:30pm-8:30pm. See pg 7 for info.
- Thursday, March 19, 2009. TransFormers (Youth). 6:30pm. LGBT Center of Cleveland.
- Friday, March 20, 2009. The Black Mondays perform in Columbus. See pg 11 for more info.
- Saturday, March 21, 2009. 2pm, TransOhio Partners Discussion Group. Columbus. See page 3 for details and location.
- Saturday, March 21, 2009. 1pm-4pm. 3rd Annual HRC– Columbus Bowl for Equality. See page 6 for details.
- Tuesday, March 24, 2009. Akron TransFamily Meeting. 6pm. Emmanuel Fellowship Church, 60 North Arlington St, Akron.

Don't forget to **SPRING FORWARD** on Sunday, March 8, 2009. Set your clocks 1 hr ahead!

For a full calendar of events, please visit www.transohio.org

Between the ages of 12-20?

Weekly Youth Gender Discussion Group
at Kaleidoscope Youth Center in Columbus.

This group is only for those ages between 12-20.

Tuesday's at 7pm. Open to all GLBTQI youth.

Facilitated by TransOhio. Questions?

Email TransOhio@gmail.com or angie@kycoho.org.

For more info about KYC, visit www.kycoho.org.

TransOhio TG Support Group

This is a peer led support group that meets at The Center on High (1160 N. High Street, Columbus, Ohio, 43201) on the 1st Wednesday of every month at 7pm. Open to all - FtM, MtF,

Cross Dressers, Gender Queer, Intersexed, etc.

Drop-ins welcome! This group is open to all ages.

Facilitated by TransOhio. Questions?

Email TransOhio@gmail.com or call (614) 441-8167.

TransOhio Partners Discussion Group

The TransOhio Partners Discussion Group is an opportunity for people to talk about common issues, to receive support, to exchange resources and to openly share personal experiences (personal frustrations and fears, the high's and the low's, dealing with children, friends, family, managing social situations and addressing issues of sexuality, personal identity, and social perceptions). ***This group is for Non-Transgender partners (dating, married, co-habitation, etc).***

The next group discussion will be held on ***Saturday, March 21, 2009, 2pm at Panera, 4519 N. High Street, Columbus, Ohio, 43214.*** Panera is handicap accessible. Questions? Email us at TransOhio@gmail.com.

This group is for Non-Transgender partners (dating, married, co-habitation, etc).

TransOhio Partner's Discussion Group by Sarah Wagner

The first TransOhio Partner's Discussion Group was a huge success. We had eight partners attend! The purpose of the group is to talk and connect with others in similar relationships and much of our time was spent introducing ourselves during this first event. In addition, we did get a brief chance to talk about the general issues many of us seem to share. Specific topics for future discussion will likely include feelings of isolation, separating the trans aspect from general relationship issues, the importance of taking care of ourselves (emotionally and physically), dealing with the rest of the world, and discussing our own views on how gender and gender roles affect us and our relationships.

On a personal note, I really enjoyed watching the other partners talk with each other. I think often we get used to not having others understand our unique issues. For many of us, being able to say something about our relationship and knowing that we won't have to explain it in detail relieves a

lot of stress and frustration. There's just something comforting about seeing someone actually get what you're talking about. Sometimes it's just nice to not have to do a quick 20 minute transgender 101 or provide an explanation of why one is committed to the relationship. I would also like to thank Ellen for co-facilitating the discussion and thank all the partners that attended. I hope to see all of you again on Saturday, March 21, 2009 at Panera in Beechwood/Clintonville.

The next meeting will be held in a private meeting room located at Panera Bread, 4519 N. High Street, Columbus, 43214 from 2-5pm. Panera is handicap accessible. Questions? Email us at TransOhio@gmail.com.

This group is for Non-Transgender partners (dating, married, co-habitation, etc).

PBJ Connections Presents "UNITE"

An equine assisted learning group for GLBTQ youths and their allies.



The UNITE program brings together GLBTQ youths and their allies to explore their individual identities, experiences, hopes, and fears while learning how they are connected to each other and the communities in which they live. In a safe environment with culturally competent facilitators, the youths will examine and improve their emotional and behavioral responses through supervised interactions with horses and other youths.

Through interactive and experiential exercises, participants will have the opportunity to think through the barriers and obstacles that oppression creates. Youths will have the opportunity to explore dimensions of differences such as sexual orientation, race, and both biological gender and gender of presentation.

Sessions take place in the barn and all sessions are facilitated by a licensed social worker and a certified horse professional. All sessions will be non-riding but will include hands-on experience with the horses.

The UNITE Group will run for six weeks and is open to up to all youths ages 13-17 who support the goals of the group and who will commit to participate in all 6 sessions. This group is offered free of charge due to a grant from The Legacy Fund of The Columbus Foundation.

Parent or guardian permission is required for participating in any group at PBJ Connections. Sessions will be held at PBJ Connections' Facility near Pataskala beginning Friday May 1st at 6PM and each will last one hour and thirty minutes. Limited funding for transportation is available for those who qualify.

Please contact Holly Jedlicka, MSW, LSW at (614) 395-1395 or at holly@pbjconnections.org for more information or to begin the registration process. Registration ends April 15, 2009.

PBJ Connections is a local 501(c)3 organization that provides equine-assisted therapy and learning to area at-risk youths and their families.

Historie by Hannah Keller

Um... Hi?

I'm not really sure what to do here...

Um... My name is... well, it's legally something else, but you can call me Hanna. I'm 20 Years old, and a college student. I'm from Shepherdsville, but I'm going to school at Morehead State University, in Eastern Kentucky.

I'm.. uh... I've been thinking about my identity for a long time. I guess this would be a good place to try to write down my history as I remember it.

You might be looking at that and thinking, "What do you mean, how you remember it?" Well, I'll explain when the time comes.

I don't know if I'm doing it wrong or something, but I guess I didn't have those great "I've always been a girl" childhoods, where you're sure of yourself from the day you've been thrust out of your mother's womb. That's not to say I was an average person when I was in elementary school. I normally hung out with girls because on some level, I felt I could relate to them better. But there was always that stigma that I was a boy. So I never really could, even though my best friend at the time was a girl.

I would end up playing house with them the times I wasn't playing by myself (I never had very many friends growing up). And I'd always nominate myself to be the dog, or the cat, or something. I never wanted to be the son or the father. It may be part of my strained relationship with my own father. But that's another story, I guess.

In 5th Grade, I met a real, honest-to-goodness tomboy who gave me my first case of Gender-shock. She looked so much like a boy... I was fully deceived. Not that she was trying to be deceptive. That planted the idea in me, I guess. "If there were girls that looked like boys, perhaps there are boys that look like girls. Granted, that's a backwards way of how I would later interpret it, but natch.

When I was in 6th Grade or so, I saw a documentary on the Discovery Channel about transgender people. I was amazed by the idea. Men could become women? Women could become men? What a wonderful world we live in! So, I did some research. I found Melanie Anne Phillips' Transgender support site back at that time. I read her fictional stories, and read about voice training. I also read about hormones, and how men could transform themselves into women. "This is what I am," I thought to myself in no certain terms.

This set the stage for my middle school years. I often fantasized about my body being a woman's. I even prayed to God to change me into a woman.

Then, the crossdressing started. I got into my mother's things and found some older undergarments that fit me tightly. I also found a black dress that I slipped on over her underwear and my body. I stood in the mirror and looked at myself.

I hated what I saw. My hair was short, I was starting to grow a beard, and the part that stings the worst in this memory is that thing between my legs poking towards the edge of the dress, making a noticeable impression on the skirt that I saw. It made me sick looking at it.

All while this was going on, my home was in the midst of a technological revolution. New games were coming out, and with that came opportunities to try being female online. I played EverQuest for a bit as a female character. And it felt fun. I didn't feel like my shy, worthless self. I felt like I was fun, and interesting, and worth getting to know. My brothers put a stop to me playing too much, though, with their own addiction to the game. But thankfully, Pokémon stepped in to fill the gap, allowing players to choose their character's gender starting with the Crystal Version. I had previously tried using a cheating device to change my character sprite in the Yellow Version from the unchangeable male to a female. I only had limited success. I played through Crystal as a female character. That was part of the reason I looked forward to it so long, although my brothers were more enamored by the GameCube we got that Christmas.

High School came along, and nothing changed for a while. I still crossdressed and fantasized. Crystal was exchanged with Sapphire Version for the Game Boy Advance, but that was the extent. Until my Junior Year, that is. That's when I met my first, and currently only ever girlfriend. I'll spare her name, but we fell in love rather quickly. But I was really afraid of her learning my secret desire to be a woman. So I hid my Sapphire Version away, and restarted my Pokémon LeafGreen version to use a male character. Additionally, I returned the clothes I had hidden to my mom's room, hoping she wouldn't notice that they returned to her (she did, but no one owned up to moving them, so she just shrugged and moved on with laundry that day). And I decided that while I desired to be female, I would give it up for her. I decided to not be myself. And in doing so, I repressed many of the memories from before. The cross-dressing, looking at myself in the mirror, the tearful cries out to God. And many, many more that I am still remembering. It sounds crazy, but it's true. Believe me.

(continued on pg 5)

Historie by Hannah Keller

(continued from pg 4)

Imagine a pipe with water running through it. What happens to the pipe if you suddenly stick a huge cork in it to clog it up? That's right, you get it to burst. I kept sitting on these feelings, hoping that they'd go away. Part of me secretly hoped that if I had intercourse with my girlfriend, the desires would go away (I'm still a virgin, by the way). When she mentioned that she doesn't like dresses leading up to prom, I jokingly mentioned that I would go in a dress. We laughed, but I knew I would if I could.

My chance finally came in the form of a D&D-esque game. All of my friends who were playing at the start (before my girlfriend joined the group) were guys, so I thought that this would be a good chance to include diversity and play a female character. That's how I justified it. It would be different. The character, named Aubra, was supposed to be trying to pass for a boy because she had the job as a preacher, and "only men can be preachers" or something like that. However, that pretense died off almost immediately. I played Aubra in a way that was definitely risqué. She hit on my best friend's character, and was so full of energy that I didn't know what to do with her at the time. Looking back, she was probably so energetic and trying to be girly because I had basically locked her up for nearly two years at that point. So of course it came out in an extreme way.

College gave me space from my girlfriend and family, but I never really explored anything. I tried to make friends, but I felt artificial. Like the people I was befriending weren't befriending me. Not even religious groups could make me feel like I belonged, even though I went to the meetings.. uh.. religiously.

I met someone on the GameFAQs message board for the Diamond Version of the Pokémon Game before it came out. We got in an argument about pairing characters from the Animé, and we became friends after that. One day, later on, she let me in on her secret. She openly identified as a lesbian, but she told me that she was also transsexual. I was surprised. I didn't think I'd meet someone who was like me in a place like that. So, I comforted her (she was, and still does, I think, have suicidal thoughts) and told her what I could remember that I hadn't completely repressed. I told her that I was unsure at a point in the past, but I had decided to be male.

This past fall semester, I took a poetry class. I wrote lots of poetry that felt like it was coming from somewhere inside. As well, I was still playing as Aubra on the side. My girlfriend had joined the group, and the game had changed a bit, and Aubra grew up and calmed down. She was overwhelmed by the desire

to be a normal girl, though. I didn't know how close that was to something I wanted at the time.

Anyway, back to poetry. lots of the poems seemed to be written in a female voice. This perplexed me. So, as part of my final poem, I decided to explore this female voice, and try to find out where it was coming from. I can't reproduce the poem here, due to the nature of it and the agreement that everything here should be rated G, but I ended up declaring that "I love because I am a woman" in my own handwriting. That thought scared me. I just declared that I was a woman. I took it back to my transsexual lesbian friend and she told me that I couldn't and shouldn't fight it anymore. I reluctantly agreed. I got new accounts for every place I visited online to try to establish a female identity. I wanted to start fresh.

However, my feelings of loyalty made me tell my girlfriend about my feelings and condition. At her compulsion, I started seeing a counselor. It was through these counseling sessions that I began uncovering the memories that I had repressed years before. I remembered the repulsion I felt about my body. I remembered how wrong it felt. Those memories had been pushed from my mind, probably because I wanted so much for them to be a lie. But there's no running from who you really are, I learned. Each memory that comes back into my mind is like finding an old toy I had lost, memories of my childhood shooting through me like an electric shock. I have a very supportive counselor on campus. She's helped me work through many personal issues, especially some of the more painful memories.

About a month later, my girlfriend confided in me that she wasn't comfortable with the relationship, but would try to go as long with me as she could. I told my mom after the holidays before I returned to college about my transition, and she is supportive. I told two close friends and one of my two brothers just after Valentine's Day. One of my friends fully accepted me as a woman. The other pulled the Christian argument, that I was doing something wrong. He rejected me, and I'm not sure if our friendship will survive (his computer broke down, and I don't have the cell phone minutes to call him to try to talk it out). My brother was apathetic and suspected it for a while. Which is better than outright rejection, I guess. And the most recent event in the past was my girlfriend deciding that she had enough, and that we had to call off our relationship (at nearly four and a half years). We're still friends, and I'm sure she'll be a great help for my transitioning.

(continued on pg 6)

Historie by Hannah Keller

(continued from pg 5)

That's my past...What'd ya think? I haven't started to transition yet, nor am I even "out". I'm a closeted transsexual girl, I'm afraid. I'm going to start dressing out at home, but school would make it too complicated/dangerous to try to change things around right now. But I plan on trying to transition as I leave. My plan is a bit complicated, and something I'll play close to my chest for now.

My reason for writing this was to be open about myself to other people, and possibly to myself, too. I want to make new friends. People who can support and assist me through this process. I've looked online at several resources and learned that doing things here in Kentucky'll be a bit complicated. Hopefully, with the help of the new friends I look forward to meeting, I'll be just fine.

You might not know this, but this was originally just an introduction I typed up for a message group. I was approached out of the blue because the powers that be thought that people would connect with my story. I don't know how many readers this story will reach, but I hope that by reading this, you've gained something. And no matter what happens, you can't give up trying to be who you really are. But it can be difficult. Demoralizing at times, but you must learn to push through. One thing you must never lose is courage. If you believe in the goal you are striving for, you will be courageous. There are many difficult times ahead, but you must keep your sense of humor, work through the tough situations and enjoy yourself. Thank you, Reader, for taking the time to read my story. I wish you the best of luck.

2nd Annual TransOhio Transgender & Ally Symposium ~ Call for Presenters & Workshop Proposals

TransOhio is currently accepting presentation, workshop, panel and performance proposals for its 2nd Annual Transgender and Ally Symposium, August 2009 in Columbus, Ohio.

TransOhio will consider a wide variety of topics, including, but not limited to:

Issues and concerns that are specific to Partners and SOFFAs of Transgender People

- Issues and concerns of Transgender Parents and Children
- Legal and Legislative Concerns for Transgender People & Their Family
- Issues regarding general Transgender Health & Medicine
- Issues surrounding Transgender Sexual Health and Relationships
- Issues and concerns specific to FTMs; MTFs; CDs; Intersex and Gender Queer individuals
- Think-tank's for creating alternative community-building groups and networks

There are some topics that have become staples in conferences about the transgender community. We urge you to consider new twists and angles on these classics. Don't hesitate in being adventurous in proposing new and unusual topics. Extra consideration will be given to fresh ideas, so let your imagination run wild! Keynote speaker TBA!

Please submit your presentation proposals no later than SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2009 so that we can guarantee space and availability.

Please submit your proposal online at:
<http://www.transohio.org/proposal.html>

Or, you may mail the attached form to us at:

TransOhio
Symposium Planning Committee
1160 N. High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43201

Questions? Please email us at TransOhio@gmail.com.

Sponsorship Information:

Interested in being a sponsor of the 2nd TransOhio Transgender and Ally Symposium? Contact Shane Morgan at shane@transohio.org for sponsor and program / symposium advertising packet.

Volunteer Information:

If you're interested in volunteering for the conference, please let us know!

Proposals accepted at:
<http://www.transohio.org/proposal.html>

OSU GradQueers Welcomes the Athens Boys Choir



F to eMbody is a unique multimedia spoken word and hip-hop performance by transsexual performers the Athens Boys Choir and Katastrophe who are "coming out" to OSU on Thursday, March 5th 2009. Harvey Katz, aka the Athens Boys Choir, performs gender-deviant, multi-media, spoken-word/homo-hop. Rapper and producer Katastrophe (aka Rocco Kayiatos) crafts dark anthems of anxiety and righteous rage, and sexy, flirtatious, booty-shaking bangers.

Join the performers for an in-depth workshop at noon discussing how deeply individual the trans experience is and covering topics ranging everything from terminology to stories of personal experience. The workshop will be held in Classroom 1 at OSU Hillel, 46 E. 16th Avenue. The performance will be held 7 pm in the Auditorium at OSU Hillel. Both events are free and open to the public. Free snacks and drinks will be provided.

F to eMbody is sponsored by GradQueers, Jewish Queers and Allies, the Multicultural Center's GLBT Programming Board, and Undergraduate Student Government.

New Classes Beginning at The Center on High

Creative Writing - Starting March 16 - Mondays @ 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

If possible, students should submit a piece of writing prior to the first class and indicate the areas of interest for writing instruction. If not submitted before first class, bring to the first class. \$30 for full 6-week course, \$25 for Members of the Center on High. Scholarships available.

The Instructor, **Nancy Zafris**, is a writer, editor, and teacher. She has published over two dozen short stories and three books: *THE PEOPLE I KNOW*, a collection of short stories that won the Flannery O'Connor award for short fiction as well as the Ohioana Library Association award for short fiction; the novel *THE METAL SHREDDERS*, which was a New York Times notable book of the year; and the novel *LUCKY STRIKE* which was a Book Sense notable book. After winning two National Endowment for the Arts grants, she served on the NEA panel. She has won several grants from the Ohio Arts Council and Greater Columbus Arts Council. Each summer she teaches at the Kenyon Review Writer's Workshop for adults, for which she is also associate director. The fiction editor of *The Kenyon Review* for nine years, she is currently the series editor of the Flannery O'Connor award book series.

Yoga - March 7 - Saturdays @ 11am - 12pm

This course is suitable for those who have never done yoga before to those who have some experience. It will introduce body awareness, basic yoga poses and their components, breath work and relaxation techniques. Students will discover newly developed strength, flexibility and mind/body awareness at their own level in a relaxed, lighthearted atmosphere. This class is most appropriate for those who can easily get up and down from the floor. \$30 for full 6 week course, \$25 for Members of the Center on High.

The instructor, **Vanessa Schumm Welch**, has been practicing yoga for 13 years. Originally a certified aerobics instructor, she was invited to attend a yoga class with a friend, falling in love with yoga during that first class and never turning back. Her first class was taught by Marcia Miller, one of the Yoga on High founding partners, with whom she still studies today. Vanessa was skeptical at first about yoga, since her background was in aerobics where alignment and the proper do's and don'ts applied. She was astounded and delighted that the yoga practice involved such attention to the body awareness, its placement and breathing and at a pace geared toward the individual's ability. Her teacher was knowledgeable about the anatomy of the body and the ways in which it applied to everyday movement, individual limitations and injury prevention. Vanessa currently studies at Yoga on High with the founding partners, Marcia Miller, Martha Marcom and Linda Oshins and attributes them with her continued knowledge and growth in her practice. She has also studied with several of the guest teachers at Yoga on High including Rodney Yee, Tom Myers, and Jean Couch. Vanessa is a student of both the Hatha and Ashtanga styles of yoga and currently teaches both of these styles for Grandview Parks and Recreation. Vanessa is a certified yoga instructor through National Exercise Trainers Association.

For classes, call 614-930-2260 or email ssimpson@stonewallcolumbus.org to register. Credit Cards accepted in advance.

Out @ Wex Film Festival ~ March 12 - 14, 2009

An annual three-day festival of films that explore and celebrate GLBT themes.

Thursday, March 12

Equality U (Dave O'Brien, 2008) @ 7PM

Q & A follows

Equality U follows a group of young activists on the Soulforce Equality Ride, a two-month, cross-country tour to confront antigay discrimination policies at select conservative religious and military colleges. Often facing arrest at the colleges, the riders (some Christians, some not) practice nonviolent resistance while trying to engage those students open to a dialogue about intolerance. Kayla Bonewell, Interfaith Chaplain at California Pacific Medical Center in San Francisco, who appears

Friday, March 13

Love Songs (Christophe Honoré, 2007) @ 7PM

Love Songs is a song-filled, tragedy inflected romance that finds some of the most beautiful young French movie stars (such as Ludivine Sagnier and Louis Garrel) hopping from bed to bed with little regard for gender by film's end. References to French New Wave classics such as *The Umbrellas of Cherbourg*, *Jules and Jim*, and numerous Godard films abound.

Otto, or Up with Dead People (Bruce La Bruce, 2008) @ 10PM

The latest art-porn provocation from Bruce La Bruce, *Otto* depicts an explosion of cannibalistic, sodomy-seeking zombies in Berlin. The film follows a young lovesick zombie, Otto, as he shuffles through the city before being enlisted by a lesbian avant-garde filmmaker to star in her new film.

Saturday, March 14

The Edge of Heaven (Fatih Akin, 2007) @ 2PM

Moving back-and-forth between Germany and Turkey, *The Edge of Heaven* focuses on a young German woman who befriends and falls in love with a young Turkish woman, much to the dismay of her disapproving mother. From the director of *Head-On* and featuring German screen icon Hanna Schygulla.

Born in Flames (Lizzie Borden, 1983) @ 4:15PM

Lizzie Borden's futuristic feminist drama *Born in Flames* follows the actions of the Women's Army, a powerful underground faction of female vigilantes formed to combat the rampant oppression of women in the director's vision of an alternate America.

Straightlaced: How Gender's Got Us All Tied Up (Debra Chasnoff, 2009) @ 7PM

Featuring candid interviews with more than 50 teenagers from diverse backgrounds, *Straightlaced* examines the stereotypes and antigay attitudes that result from the pressure on young people to conform to gender expectations. The film explores the pressure not only on GLBT kids to "fit in" but also on straight teens. Stay after the film for a conversation in which audience members have the opportunity to discuss their experiences related to the film's topic.

The Lollipop Generation (G. B. Jones, 2008) @ 8:45PM

G. B. Jones from Toronto has been called the "matriarch of queercore" for her work in film, music, zines, and art. Since 1992, she has been traveling North America with a Super-8 camera filming footage for *The Lollipop Generation*, a lost relic of underground cinema finally unearthed. The gritty and sweet DIY fable follows a young runaway girl who meets up with a cast of perverts, hustlers, playground dwellers, and lollipop lovers creating a never-never land of queeruptions. Featuring appearances by a rogues' gallery of gay and indie rock musicians and artists including Vaginal Davis and Calvin Johnson.

Support for Out@Wex is generously provided by ButtOut Ohio, a campaign to encourage LGBTQ youth to live with pride—BUT without tobacco. Cosponsors for the Out@Wex film festival are BRAVO, Equality Ohio, HRC Columbus Steering Committee, Kaleidoscope Youth Center, Ohio State's GLBT Alumni Society, Ohio State's Multicultural Center, and Stonewall Columbus. Promotional Support is provided by Out in Columbus and Outlook Weekly.

wexner center for the arts | the ohio state university | 1871 N. High St. Columbus, OH 43210 | www.wexarts.org

Keystone Conference

March 12-14, 2009 in Harrisburg, PA

Come join us at Keystone Conference 2009, "A Celebration of Gender Diversity," hosted by TransCentralPA in the capitol city of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania!

The Keystone Conference treats event attendees to one full day of varied and meaningful workshops and seminars and two nights of social functions, the finale being Saturday night's gala dinner and dance in the Sheraton's resplendent ballroom. For those desiring more social activities, we have arranged activities for Thursday and Friday as well, and our extraordinary special event rate for this bright and luxurious hotel is extended for those desiring a longer stay in this clean, lovely and historic riverside city. Entertainment includes visit to casinos and performances by transgendered community members. The Saturday lunch is highlighted by presentation by Mara Kiesling, Director for NCTE and the Saturday evening Banquet is highlighted by renowned transgendered activist Donna Rose.

We not only promise you an informative, inspirational and wonderful time among members and supporters of the Transgender community at the lovely Sheraton Harrisburg/Hershey Hotel, but also that you won't find a better value for your dollar at any other Trans-event or conference in the U.S. this entire year!

Registration is now open so make your plans to join us for the weekend of March 14th. Please visit our website at www.TransCentralPA.org for more information regarding this conference!

La Fraternitie du Loup-Garou – 5th Annual of CampOUT in West Virginia

What: CampOUT 2009

Where: Long Fork Retreat and Campground, Walton, WV

When: July 9th-12th, 2009

Cost: Full event (Thurs-Sun): \$125.00 or Weekend Rate (Fri-Sun): \$100.00

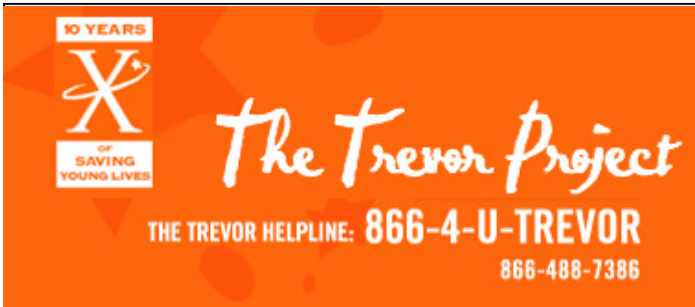
General La Fraternitie du Loup-Garou Information:

<http://lagarou.org/campout.htm> or email, lagarou@hotmail.com.

Volunteers: CampOUT 2009 is in need of volunteers to make our event run smoothly. Volunteers at CampOUT are required to work a minimum of four hours a day, working more than four hours is entirely up to you. The volunteer rate is just \$75.00! If you would like to volunteer please visit our website first. We will need you to write to our Volunteer Coordinator about which jobs you would like to help out with. Volunteer Coordinator, Cameron: kaz215@yahoo.com

**Plan Ahead! More Details Soon!
August 2009
TransOhio. Symposium. Columbus.**

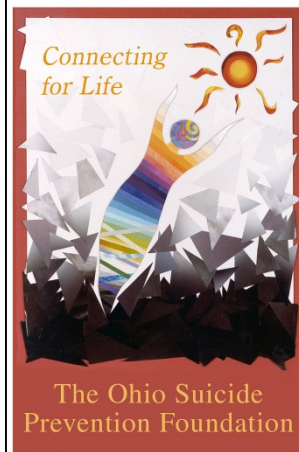
Suicide Prevention Resources



The Trevor Project operates the only nationwide, around-the-clock crisis and suicide prevention helpline for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning youth. If you or a friend are feeling lost or alone call The Trevor Helpline.

For more information about The Trevor Project, visit www.thetrevorproject.org.

If you are a youth who is feeling alone, confused or in crisis, please call 1-866-4-U-TREVOR. You'll be able to speak confidentially with a trained counselor 24/7.



The Foundation is a catalyst to eliminating the stigma attached to suicide, mental illness, substance abuse and addiction. Suicide is a major public health problem that kills 1,200 Ohioans each year with an average of three deaths per day. Suicide is preventable. Please join the Foundation in preventing suicide, restoring hope and connecting for life. For more information, visit www.ohiospf.org.

1900 Kenny Road,
Columbus, Ohio 43210
1-614-292-8585
1-800-848-4815 ext. 84480

Feeling Suicidal? CALL 1-800-273-TALK(8255)

Helping in a Crisis

Do

- Reach out
- Ask questions
- Show that you care
- Encourage your friend to talk
- Listen without making judgments
- Talk openly about suicide
- Be positive
- Remain calm
- Ask direct questions: Are you planning on killing yourself? How? When? Where?
- Suggest people you can both turn to
- Know your limits
- Get help
- Act quickly if you think your friend is in danger

Don't

- Make your friend's problem sound unimportant\
- Act shocked
- Keep your friend's suicide plans a secret
- Try to take any weapon away from your friend
- Leave your friend alone when he or she is in crisis
- Assume that your friend is simply having a bad day
- Take on the responsibility of your friend's safety by yourself
- Stop being a good friend, no matter what
- Lose patience if your friend tries to reject your help
- Give up hope

Full document at <http://www.helppreventsuicide.org>.



The Black Mondays March Performance Schedule

The Black Mondays is a drag performance troupe based out of Cincinnati, Ohio. Their highly choreographed numbers, full of humor, social commentary, and heavy sex appeal, have made them well known all across the Midwest.

Saturday, March 14, 2009

The Black Mondays
Featuring "The Kelly's", DJ Harvination
Foile a' Trois belly dancers,
full bar with Guest Bartender Nonta!
Doors at 9pm, Show at 10pm
18+, \$10 cover
Leapin' Lizards Hall
726 Main Street,
Covington, KY 41011

Friday, March 20, 2009

The Black Mondays
Presented by King Knights

Show at 10pm
18+ FREE!

Havana Video Lounge
862 N. High St
Columbus, OH 43215

The troupe has shared the stage with several prestigious performers such as Sile Singleton, Katie Reider, Betty, and Jennifer Cor-day. In 2008, the troupe was named one of the worlds "top performance groups" by the International Drag King Extravaganza.

3rd Annual Bowl for Equality

Saturday March 21, 2009

1pm - 4pm at Western Lanes
500 Georgesville Road, Columbus, 43228

Admission includes 3 hours of bowling, bowling shoe rental, pizza and soft drinks, plus an annual HRC membership!

Ticket prices: \$35 Adult

\$20 Kids or College Students with ID

** Save on Four Bowlers package! \$100 **

Cash bar will be open for guests 21 and over.

Tickets online at <http://www.hrc.org/columbusbowling>
Visit www.western-lanes.com for directions.

The Queer Canon

*by the badass whimsy and other
sacred frake*

The Queer Canon, is the very first queer publication to be created for the University of Cincinnati campus. This first issue is part of a Queer Education initiative which was started by GenderBloc in 2006. The Queer Canon is published three times a year.

Submissions are open, just check submission guidelines on the website! You can find it around campus and Cincinnati, or you can download it as a PDF file on GenderBloc's website at <http://queercanon.genderbloc.org>.

The Stephanie Chaffin Fund

Please consider a donation to The **Stephanie Chaffin Fund** through TransOhio and Stonewall Columbus. This is another symbolic way of keeping Stephanie's name alive. This goal is deemed more meaningful in light of the way Stephanie's estranged and rejecting family chose to have a funeral where she was shown as a man. Your contribution no matter how small will be very welcome. At the end of each Stonewall TG support group meeting, we typically pass around an envelope to collect donations to help Stonewall. Stephanie, whose funds were clearly limited as a result of which she neglected and could not afford to take her heart medication, used to always empty her pockets of the change she had on her, which was at times as little as a few cents. Thus please contribute what you can as Stephanie did. Our goal is to have The Stephanie Chaffin Fund be used for a medical emergency for a transgender person, such as the kind of medical help Stephanie could have benefited from.

Donations for The Stephanie Chaffin Fund can now be made online through the TransOhio and Stonewall Columbus website. To donate to The Stephanie Chaffin Fund, visit <http://www.transohio.org/donate.html>. Donations made to this fund are tax-deductible through Stonewall Columbus.

Ohio Local Resources

- BRAVO (Buckeye Region Anti-Violence Organization): www.bravo-ohio.org
- Columbus AIDS Task Force: www.catf.net
- Central Ohio CD Support: www.crossohio.org
- Chi Lambda Epsilon, a Chapter of Tri Ess (Ohio & Western PA.): www.triess-cle.org
- COLAGE: www.colage.org
- CrossPort Cincinnati: www.transgender.org/crossprt
- Equality Ohio: www.equalityohio.org
- Gay People's Chronicle: www.gaypeopleschronicle.com
- Gender Dysphoria Program of Central Ohio: www.genderprogram.com
- GenderBloc: www.GenderBloc.org
- Kaleidoscope Youth Center: www.kaleidoscope.org
- Outlook News: www.outlooknews.com
- PFLAG Columbus: www.pflagcolumbus.org
- PFLAG Dayton: www.pflagdayton.org
- SpeakOUT: www.speakoutcols.org
- Stonewall Columbus: www.stonewallcolumbus.org
- The Apothecary Shop: www.theapothecaryshop.com
- The Alpha Omega Society: www.aosoc.org
- The Crystal Club: www.thecrystalclub.org
- Transcendence: www.transbg.org
- TransFamily of Cleveland: www.transfamily.org



Donate to TransOhio!

TransOhio operates under the umbrella of the Stonewall Columbus 501(c)3 status, which makes your monetary donation to TransOhio tax-deductible!

To make an online donation to TransOhio, visit our website at www.transohio.org/donate.html

Thank you for your support!

National Resources

- American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU): www.aclu.org/lgbt
- FTM International: www.ftmi.org
- Hudson's FTM Resource Guide: www.ftmguide.org
- Human Rights Campaign (HRC): www.hrc.org
- InterPride: www.interpride.org
- Out & Equal Workplace Advocates: www.outandequal.org
- National Center for Transgender Equality (NCTE): www.nctequality.org
- National Gay & Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF): www.theTaskForce.org
- PFLAG: www.pflag.org
- PFLAG's Transgender Network (TNET): www.pflag.org/tnet.html
- Queertransmen.org: www.queertransmen.org
- Tgcrossroads: www.tgcrossroads.org
- Transster.com: www.transster.com
- World Professional Association for Transgender Health (WPATH): www.wpath.org



Do you have a local or national resource that you'd like listed in the TransOhio newsletter?
Please email your listing to TransOhio@gmail.com!

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Phone: 614.360.2800

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Columbus, Ohio 43201

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Chris, Owner

www.alternativeautocare.com

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